

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

January 14, 2005

Attendance:

Jerry Tepe, Acting Chair, Board of Architects, licensed architect

Tyler Carlisle, Board of Engineers, licensed electrical engineer

John Tuttle, NH Home Builders Association, Architectural designer – residential

James Petersen, PE, Board of Engineers, licensed mechanical engineer

Tedd Evans, Board for licensing and regulation of plumbers, licensed master plumber

George Maihos, NH Electricians Board, licenses master electrician

Thomas S Lambert, Chief, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, Municipal Fire

Mark Weissflog, NH Electrical Contractors Business Asso., licensed master electrician

Wayne A. Richardson, NH Building Officials Association, municipal building official

Joel Fisher, Board of Engineers, licensed structural engineer

Excused:

Robert Clegg, Chairman, Department of Safety

Med Kopczynski, NH Municipal Association

Wes Golomb, Public Utilities Commission, State energy conservation code office

Michael Santa, CBO, Governor's Commission on Disability, Architectural barrier/free design

Absent: Rick Swain, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Assoc., mechanical contractor, business

Bruce Phillips, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, municipal volunteer fire chief

Fred Baybutt, Associated General Contractors, building contractor – non-residential buildings

Guests:

Marta Modigliani, Attorney, Department of Safety, Office of the Commissioner

Bill Degnan

Acting Chairman Tepe called the Board meeting to order, and having 10 members seated in attendance, declared a quorum.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proposed amendments to the Building Code, the Mechanical Code and the Energy Conservation Code (Exhibits 14 and 15):

Chairman Tepe asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in the Public Hearing on the proposed amendments.

Dean Sorinson, Facilities Director, for Kendal at Hanover, in Hanover, NH. Read the proposed language and is in favor of the amendment. They have been unable to put in sun rooms/porch enclosures because this language was not in there. Had one question for clarification, the definition of 'open hole area'. The Chair said this was not an 'official' code interpretation, but it would mean the opening between the main house and the center. Tedd Evans said that glazing and with reference to 'open hole' glazing, it would be the portion of the window that would open, not the entire window. Chairman Tepe said that the language was taken directly out of the 2003 Edition of the IBC.

Chairman Tepe asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak. Seeing none, he called for a half-hour recess, at which time he will continue.

GENERAL MEETING:

Adoption of meeting minutes from December 10, 2004

Tom Lambert made the **MOTION** to adopt the meeting minutes. Tedd Evans **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. There being no discussion, vote was taken and declared **UNANIMOUS** by the Chair.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion from Ed Murdough, NH Dept of Education:

Chairman Tepe introduced Ed Murdough. Mr. Murdough explained that the Code, in the way it calculates occupancy, results in a number of plumbing fixtures which far exceeds the needs. If you use the Code and you calculate based on a 20 square foot per person figure, you will come up with 45 people in a standard classroom. The State Board of Education Rules, has a maximum of 30 pupils per class. So we are exceeding that number by 50% when you use the Code. When you have multiple use spaces in a building, the fixture count is not cumulative.

Chairman Tepe asked why is this an issue now. Ed stated that he was not sure but thinks it has been an issue for a long time, but perhaps resolved at the local level. Tyler Carlisle said it has been his experience that towns have had to put more than the 30 students per classroom in some cases. The towns have increased more rapidly than originally planned for. Tedd Evans asked Ed who he represented. Ed said he was the Administrator of the Office of School Building Aid in the Department of Education. He is the person who approves the State share of funding towards the school construction.

Wayne Richardson asked in addition to the 30 students, how many staff members would be in each room, aids, special needs aids, teachers etc. Ed said that on the average probably less than 2, with a standard of 1.

Joel Fisher asked what the relationship of the buildings and the Code requirements. Ed said that it will vary from school to school. At the Elementary School level you have approximately 3 times as many potential people in the building as there actually are on a day to day basis. At the High School level it might be 4-5 times that. Tedd Evans asked if the Chair knew of any proposed amendments to that Section. Chairman Tepe said not that he was aware of. John Tuttle asked if to get State funding, are most schools designed to also be emergency shelters? There are no requirements at this time.

Chairman Tepe thanked Mr. Murdough for attending and stated that the Board will take his concerns under consideration. NB followed up with correspondence indicating Mr. Murdough could also submit a proposed amendment.

2005 NEC Adoption of amendments – report of sub-committee:

Tyler Carlisle said the sub-committee has met and are working together. They have asked for 1 more meeting, and next month should be finished up.

State Building Code website – report of sub-committee:

James Petersen has asked from each Board member, input and suggestions for the website. Several responses have come in. The Committee wants to pass the suggestions along to Marta. His sub-committee would like to continue for another month to meet and finalize.

Smart Codes – report of sub-committee (aka The International Existing Building Code adoption):

Chairman Tepe said the subcommittee has met once and there is a proposed amendment floating around but they are not ready to bring it forward yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Tepe re-opened the Public Hearing on Exhibits 14 and 15. Asked if there were any persons who wished to speak on the Exhibits at this time. There being none, Chairman Tepe closed the Public Hearing at 10:41.

Exhibit 14:

Jerry Tepe said that if you look at page 3, where it was listed the International Energy Conservation Code – that part was already taken care of – so it can be “X’d” out. Tedd Evans said the paragraph right above in the Mechanical Code is a bit confusing and does not think it will not work as it is the Plumbing Licensing Law. Both statutes need to be mentioned for penalties, the 155-A and the 329-A. Hearing no objection, Chairman Tepe tabled discussion on Exhibit 14 until next months meeting.

Exhibit 15:

The amendment to the International Building Code – when the Energy Code was amended to allow sunrooms the cross correlation was missed in the Building Code that permits you to do this. There being no discussion, Tedd Evans made the **Motion** to adopt the amendment, Exhibit 15. Motion was **Seconded** by Tyler Carlisle. Vote taken was **UNANIMOUS** and so declared.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Marta put the Rules in final format and Board members were given copies, to Bcr 215 – Appeals. Chairman Tepe asked if there were any questions. George Maihos asked for some time to review them. George Maihos made the **Motion** to postpone consideration until next meeting. Tom Lambert **Seconded** the motion. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**.

Adjournment of meeting:

There being no further business, Chairman Tepe declared the meeting adjourned at 10:49.